

International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100140

Details

Known as	IBCC
Status	Received
Registered	2014-09-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	44 Cedar Avenue Belfast. BT15 5at BT15 5AT
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Email	lyndaernest@btinternet.com
Website	http://irelandscw.com

Activities

Purposes: The objects of IBCC are:- 1. To educate the public in Northern Ireland and in particular Belfast and its environs (hereinafter called "the area of benefit") on the history of the sacrifice and principles of the volunteers of the International Brigades with specific reference to those brigadiers from Northern Ireland in the Spanish Anti-Fascist War, 1936 to 1939 (Spanish Civil War) 2. To promote reconciliation and a shared future in the area of benefit by commemorating the shared past, contributions and principles of those brigadiers.

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science, The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Cross-border/cross-community, Cultural, Education/training, Heritage/historical, Human rights/equality

Who the charity helps: General public, Interface communities, Men, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,958	£1,681	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ciaran Crossey		
Ernest Walker		
Frank Cammock		
Mr Donald Harte		
Mr Mark Roberts		
Mrs Lynda Walker		
Paul Kelly		

International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100140

Accounts

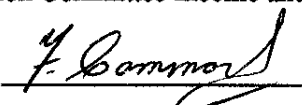
The International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Income and Expenditure Account

For the Year Ending 31st March 2025

From	Income	Expenditure	Receipt	Date
Black Box Ticket Sales 16.04.24	£30	Sandino's May Day Event	£80	24.04.2024
Unite Community Branch 22.04.24	£250	Fee for Guest Musician Teknopeasant	£180	24.04.2024
Sales from Events 30.04.24	£550	Transport for Guest Musician Joe Solo	£14	26.04.2024
INTO - 01.05.2024	£200	Fee for Guest Musician Joe Solo	£150	27.04.2024
		Accommodation for Guest Musician @ May Day Event Joe Solo	£139	29.04.2024
Black Box Ticket Sales 02.05.24	£20.70	Affiliation IBMT	£30	23.05.2024
Unite Region 12.06.24	£500	Design of Leaflet Sinead Cameron	£50	21.06.2024
Sale of Books 19.08.24 Lang	£8.50	Book Design - Spanish Sky Sinead Cameron	£100	08.07.2024
Sale of Books 20.08.24 Walsh	£15.50	Printing of Posters Northside Graphics	£144	15.07.2024
Sale of Books 20.08.24 Burns	£10	Printing of Book - Spanish Sky Northside Graphics	£625.20	17.07.2024
Sale of Posters 22.08.24 ICP	£72	Kennedy Flowers Annual Lecture	£60	01.08.2024
Sale of Books 27.08.24 Wray	£9	Sandwich Bar Annual Lecture	£90	06.08.2024
Sale of Books 27.08.24 Hyslop	£20.70	Sundries Annual Lecture	£16.05	09.08.2024
Sale of Books 29.08.24 Fitch	£8.50	Fee for Guest Speaker Annual Lecture	£200	12.08.2024
Sale of Books 10.10.24 Unite Shorts Branch	£60	Sundries Committee Meeting	£7.03	16.10.2024
Community Relations Council 11.10.24	£88.15	Design of Leaflet Sinead Cameron	£60	17.03.2025
Sale of Books 10.10.24 Stoddart	£100			
Sale of Books 29.08.24 Walker	£7.03			
Sale of Books 20.01.25 Campbell	£8.10			
Total Income	£1,958.18	Total Direct Charitable activity	£1,945.28	
Balance – 01.04.24	£1668.68			
Expenditure	£1,945.28			
Balance – 31.03.25	£1,681.58			

The foregoing Income and Expenditure has been prepared from the invoices, receipts and bank statements of the International Brigade Commemoration Committee Income and Expenditure Account.

Signed Treasurer: Frank Cammock:  Date 12/5/25

International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100140

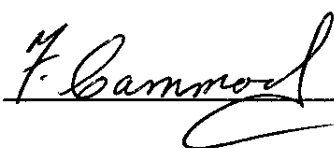
Accounts

**The International Brigade Commemoration Committee
Income and Expenditure Account
For the Year Ended 31st March 2024**

From	Income	Expenditure	Receipt	Date
Unite Belfast Shorts 21.7.23	£100	Affiliation fee IBMT	£30	16.03.2023
Amicus Belf. South 21.7.23	£100	Plaque for Shankill Library Timpson	£200	27.05.2023
Unite Irish Region 22.8.23	£250	Leaflets & posters for Annual Lecture Cathedral Graphics	£200	30.06.2023
SIPTU 7.11.23	£50	Kennedy Flowers Aug 2023	£50	11.08.2023
Unite Retired Mem. 15.11.23	£100	Sandwiches at Annual Lecture Sandwich Bar-Shankill Rd	£75	11.08.2023
UCU 25.11.23	£200	Accommodation for Guest Speaker @ Annual Lecture Ewald P Schulz	£281	16.08.2023
Ticket sales Linen Hall Library Event 5.12.23	£163.72	Design of Posters/ Leaflets Linen Hall Library Event Sinead Cameron	£50	13.10.2023
Sales of Books & Badges 14.12.23	£270	Deposit for May Day Event Black Box	£120	20.10.2023
NIPSA 18.12.23	£100	Printing Poster-film Linen Hall Library Event	£60	6.11.2023
Amicus Belf. South 5.02.24	£100	Linen Hall Library. Film Event Souvenir posters	£25	1.12.2023
Unison 12.02.2024	£200	Design of 3 leaflets and a poster Sinead Cameron	£60	21.02.2024
		Kennedy Flowers AGM	£50	23.02.2024
		Cathedral Graphics/AGM report:	£30	16.2.2024
		Cathedral Graphics/Leaflet print	£50	23.02.2024
		AGM Falls Road Library-hire of room	£35	24.02.2024
		Joe Solo, flights and fare for May Day event.	£224	22.3.2024
Total Income	£1633.72	Total Direct Charitable activity	£1,540	
Balance – 01.04.23	£1,569.96			
Expenditure	£1,540.00			
Balance – 31.03.24	£1,663.68			

The foregoing Income and Expenditure has been prepared from invoices, receipts and bank statements of the International Brigade Commemoration Committee Income and Expenditure Account.

Signed Treasurer: Frank Cammock:



Date:

6/1/25

International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100140

Annual report

Charities Commission

Trustees Report from the International Brigade Commemoration Committee (IBCC) 2023-2024

The main income for the IBCC was donations from the Trades Unions as noted. This was spent on three main events, the Annual General Meeting, the Feile Lecture in the Shankill Road Library and an event that marked the return of the Irish and Brigaders in 1939-showing original film. Actors also took part in this event which was held in the Linen Hall Library. Expenditure included publicity, posters, leaflets also used to promote events. Hospitality and guest speakers travel and accommodation was part of the expenses. In 2023 a new plaque costing £200 was put into the Shankill Library.

1. **The IBCC held its AGM 2023** in February and evaluated the work of the past year. We agreed to organise at least three events plus a planning meetings to look at further action.
2. **Election of the committee:** It was agreed that the following people should form the committee: C. Crossey, E. Walker, D. Harte, L. Walker, P. Kelly, G. Kelly, F. Cammock, A. Murray, P. Mackle. **Officers elected:** Chairperson-Ciaran Crossey, Secretary-Ernest Walker, Treasurer: Frank Cammock.
3. **Finance Report:** Frank Cammock. Frank gave a finance report. It was stated that the Nationwide Building Society was no longer administering our type of accounts. Since then an account was opened in the Ulster Bank. It was agreed that the officers and Paul Kelly would be the signatories for the account.
4. **Guest speakers** were Neil O' Riordan-Tribute to Micheal O' Riordan and Gerry Grainger-tribute to Paddy McAlister
5. **A May Day** event which was held in the Sunflower Folk Club, where we showed the film *The Good Fight* about Lincoln Brigade, which was well received.
6. **The Féile an Phobail 2023.** This year for the Féile an Phobail the IBCC invited Ewald P Schultz from the KFSR to do a presentation about the Thälmann-Battalion. The event, held in the Shankill Road Library, was very well attended. The presentation was excellent. It was agreed to publish the talk in booklet form for next year.
7. Following this a new plaque was unveiled in the Library and the names of two more Brigaders from the Shankill area were added. Unite gave a financial contribution to this event.
8. A short memorial meeting was later held in Writers Square at the Brigade statue and a wreath was laid by Brenda O' Riordan.
9. **RETURN OF THE BRIGADERS!** A film of International Brigaders returning from fighting Fascism in Spain will be held in the Linen Hall Library later in 2023. This is part of the International Brigades Memorial Trust Commemoration of the 85 anniversary return of the British Battalion. This included Irishmen some of whom arrived in Belfast on the 12th December 1938. The film was made by Marshall Mateer, archive film courtesy of British Film Institute.
10. We also to encouraged people to attend other International Brigade events at home and abroad. Members of the IBCC attended the KFSR AGM, 2023 in Berlin.
11. In September 2023 members of the IBCC attended a memorial event on the 80th anniversary of Jim Haughey's death this was held in Lurgan. It was organised by Craigavon Trades Council. Dooley Harte gave a lecture-The Lion of Lurgan and there was a relaunch of the book about Jim.
12. We took the opportunity to remember Joe Mulheron who died suddenly this year. Joe had agreed to hold the Thälmann-Battalion event in Sandinos in Derry, he had always been supportive for the international Brigades. When Jack Jones and Bob Dole died he opened Sandinos, his café bar for a remembrance event for their family and friends in the IBMT.
13. **AOB:**
 - Affiliations to the IBMT and the Marx Memorial Library to be paid.
 - Funding request: letter to go out to the trade unions
 - It was agreed to look at the constitution to make it more relevant to our organisation.

The IBCC was formed 2006 in Belfast in the Linen Hall Library. Founder members included Michael O' Riordan, and members of Belfast Trades Council.

International Brigade Commemoration Committee Annual General Meeting 24.02.2024



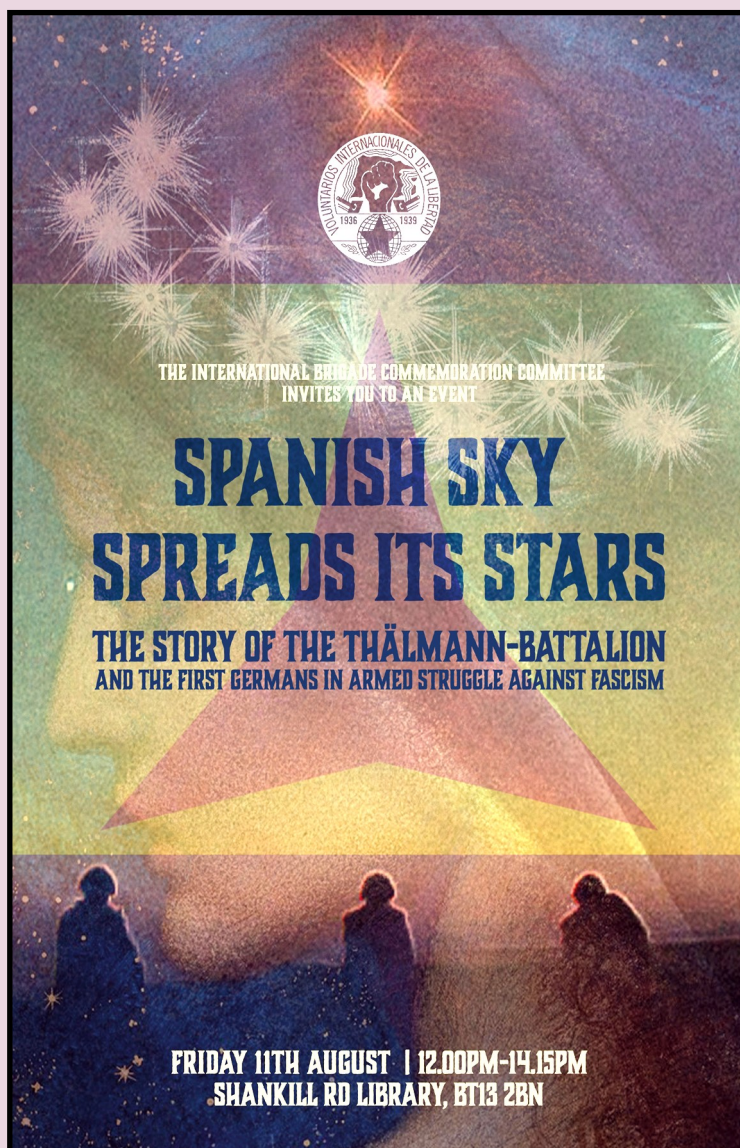
THE aim of the International Brigade Commemoration Committee is to understand why the International Brigades were formed and to appreciate why Irish people wanted to support the common cause against fascism. To keep alive, the principles that the brigaders fought for and to oppose present day prejudices through education and events and to erect memorials to those who died fighting for democracy and against fascism in Spain.

VENUE

Falls Road Library-

10.30am-13.00 pm Agenda

1. Opening remarks: Ciaran Crossey
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Secretary's Report-Ernest Walker
4. Treasurers Report-Frank Cammock
5. Election of the committee
6. Future events:
 - a) May Day events: 25th and 26th April
 - b) Feile (August) event in the Shankill Library-guest speaker:.
 - c) International Zoom Meeting-Adam
 - d) Other actions/international meetings: KFSR, IBMT agm-2025.
7. Guest speakers:
 - * Gerry Grainger: International Brigader from the Falls-Paddy McAllister.
 - * Neil O'Riordan: tribute to Manus O'Riordan-

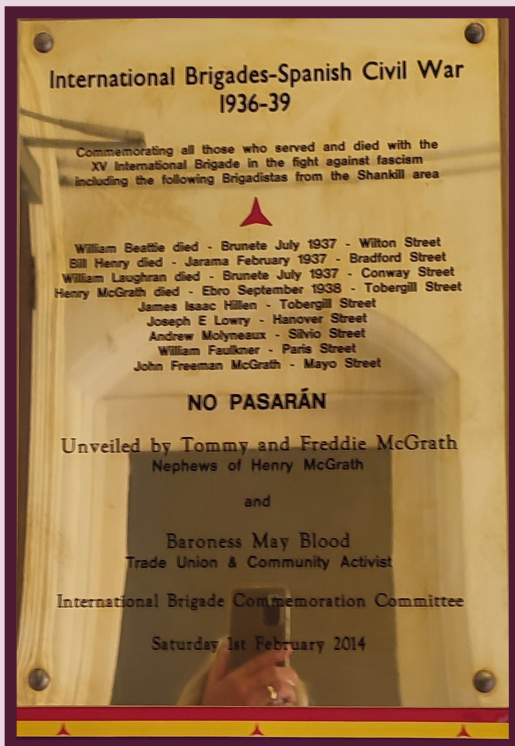


Poster made for the Feile event in August 2023

2023 Feile event in the Shankill Library



Ewald Schulz



Of special interest to people is the discovery of a two other Brigaders from the Shankill area.

William Faulkner and John Freeman McGrath. After the meeting a new plaque with their names added, was unveiled in the Shankill library

THE meeting, *Spanish Sky Spreads its Stars* organised by the International Brigade Commemoration Committee on August 11th was very successful with a packed audience. Ewald P. Schulz from Fighters and Friends of the Spanish Republic (KFSR) travelled from Berlin to give an illustrated presentation about the story of the Thälmann-Battalion and the first Germans in the armed struggle against fascism. We heard how in 1936 General Franco staged a coup against the democratic government of Spain. From the very beginning Hitler-Germany had supported the insurgents with weapons, means of transportation and troops. At the same time 1,500 German exiles from all over Europe and antifascists from Hitler Germany rushed to the aid of the Spanish Republic. The first men to arrive formed small groups of militia, which later on became the Thälmann-Battalion, the core of the XI Battalion, International Brigade. Alongside their comrades from all over the world, they took part in decisive battles and wrote their page in the history of the heroic struggle of the International Brigades in Spain. Many questions were asked by people in the audience. Ernest Walker who chaired the meeting gave thanks to Ewald, to everyone who came and especially to the Shankill Library for their help and support. Financial support is acknowledged on page 4. We hope to produce a pamphlet with the talk that Ewald did.



Following this a tribute was paid in Writers Square by Adam Murray, IBCC committee member and Brenda O' Riordan who laid a wreath in the memory of all the International Brigaders. Songs were then sung to mark the occasion.

On the 5th of December 2023 we had the unique opportunity to see the film *Brigaders Return!* which marked the 85th anniversary of the return of the International Volunteers from fighting fascism in Spain. The film had original footage of 304 members of the British Battalion arriving in London, on the 7th of December 1938. An estimated 20,000 people came out to welcome them home. The brigaders travelled home from London to various parts of Britain and Ireland. In 1938 the local Belfast Newsletter carried an article that named some of the men from the North who arrived in Belfast on the 12th and 13th of December and also named some of those who died. Michael O’ Riordan wrote in his book about seven brigaders, including Peter O’Connor arrived at Westland Road station in Dublin on the 10th of December 1938. Chairperson of the IBCC Ciaran Crossey welcomed over 60 people who attended including the daughter of Joe Boyd, the son of Lord Antrim and the son of Peter O’Connor. Singing was provided by Jimmy McCoey. There was also a reading from Martin Lynch’s play, *Pictures of Tomorrow*, six actors took part including the renowned actor Ian McEllhaton

A display of items relating to the IBCC and the brigaders was on show in the cabinets in the main film room of the Linen Hall Library where the event took place.

The IBCC wish to thank the British Film Institute, Marshal Mateer and the International Brigade Memorial Trust for providing this opportunity to show the film. We also want to thank Martin Lynch and the Linen Hall Library for their support

RETURN OF THE BRIGADERS!



FILM OF INTERNATIONAL BRIGADERS RETURNING FROM FIGHTING FASCISM IN SPAIN DECEMBER 1938

The event will also feature a short reading from Martin Lynch's play *Pictures of Tomorrow* named after Charlie Donnelly's poem.

Tuesday 5th December | LINEN HALL LIBRARY BELFAST
 DOORS OPEN: 5.30PM. BAR OPEN: 5.30PM - 6.45PM
 THE EVENT WILL BEGIN AT 7.00PM
 TICKETS: £5.00 WAGED £2.50 UNWAGED
 EVENTBRITE & ON THE DOOR



Organised by the International Brigades Commemoration Committee
 For further information, contact 0775395785

Left to right front: Ian McElhinney; Lynda Walker, Martin Lynch, Liz Shaw, (daughter of brigader Joe Boyd)



Playwright Martin Lynch, actors and IBCC members help with the enactment of the return of the International Brigaders; Belfast Lanyon Place station in Belfast. Photograph by Mal McCann



Below reading the play: Left to right: Mathew McElhinney, Aaron Cathcart, Liam McMullen, Ian McElhinney, Martin Lynch, Ivan Little, Marty McGuire



⇒ **Other activities**

- ⇒ **IBCC members attended the KSFR Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Berlin in August.**
- ⇒ **And also the International Brigade Memorial Trust AGM in Stockton on Tees in October.**
- ⇒ **A number of IBCC members attended a special event which was organised in Craigavon to launch a second edition of the booklet about Jim Haughey.**
- ⇒ **Dooley Harte, one of our committee members was instrumental in organising the event along with other from the Craigavon Trades Council and Jim Haughey's family.**
- ⇒ **Enquires were made about putting a plaque in Antrim.**

Joe Mulheron 1947–10.5.2023



Members of the IBCC were sorry to hear of the sudden death of their friend Joe Mulheron who has been supportive of the cause of the International Brigaders.

In 2009 he held a memorial meeting in Sandino's for family and friend of Bob Doyle and Jack Jones. In August 2023 he planned to hold an IBCC meeting with guest speaker Ewald P Shultz from Germany.

His song *Connolly Column* told the story of the men from Derry who went to support the Spanish Republic in the fight against fascism. We send condolences to his family and friends.

His songs and comradeship will live on. Salud

THE IBCC wishes to acknowledge the support of people who have bought our merchandise. We also wish to thank those who spoke at and attended the events that we organised. We want to acknowledge the help and support over the past year of the Shankill Library, the Falls Library, the Linen Hall Library, The John Hewitt Bar, Craigavon Trades Council, Pedro and Sunflower Bar, Trademark, Feile an Phobail-the Peoples' Festival, the International Brigades Memorial Trust, Marshal Mateer, Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, Martin Lynch et al, Jimmy McCoe, Translink, the Belfast and District Trade Union Council, Mal McCann. Also financial support from, Martin Lynch, Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance, Unite the Union, Unite Belfast Retired Branch, Unison, SIPTU, UCU and any others that we may have missed

Events for May Day Programme 2024

Thursday 25th April 7.00pm-in Sandino's Derry: And Friday 26th April 7.30pm in the Black Box, Belfast. We are delighted to announce that Joe Solo and Teknopeasant (AKA Conor O'Kane) will be playing in both venues.

Gerry Murphy Assistant General secretary of the ICTU and a representative from Derry Trades Council will bring a May Day message

Peace on Earth: Observing the 87th anniversary of the bombing of the town of *Gernika* by Hitler: 26th April 1937



Joe Solo from Scarborough



Teknopeasant AKA Conor O'Kane From Donegall

International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100140

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of the International Brigades Commemoration Committee

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Adele Moore
Finance & Administration Manager
4-6 Donegall St PI, Belfast BT1 2FN

Date: 9th January 2025

International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100140

Accounts

The International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Income and expenditure account

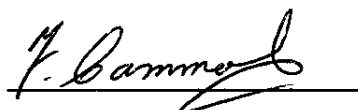
For the year ended 31st March 2023

Income		Expenditure	Receipts
Income	£0	Hotel for Guest Speaker @ Annual Lecture	£164.25
		Sandwiches for Annual Lecture	£80
		Kennedy Flowers	£50
		Affiliation fee IBMT	£30
		Total Direct Charitable activity	£324.25
Balance – 01.04.22	£1864.21		
Income	£0		
Expenditure	£324.25		
Balance – 31.03.23	£1539.96		

The foregoing Income and Expenditure has been prepared from the invoices, receipts and bank statements of the International Brigade Commemoration Committee – Income and Expenditure Account.

Date: 4th December 2023

Signed the Treasurer:



Mr Frank Cammock

International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100140

Annual report

INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE AGM 2023

Over the past year members of the IBCC have tried to pick up the pieces after the months of difficulties caused by covid.

Looking through the 2020/2021 AGM reports we can note that the May Day, Feile and other activities that did not take place.

2021 we held an outdoor event in place of the Feile and few of us were able to go to events.

However some of us attended the FIBI event in Omeath.

It was with sadness that we learnt of the death of Mel Corry 2020, and Manus O' Riordan.

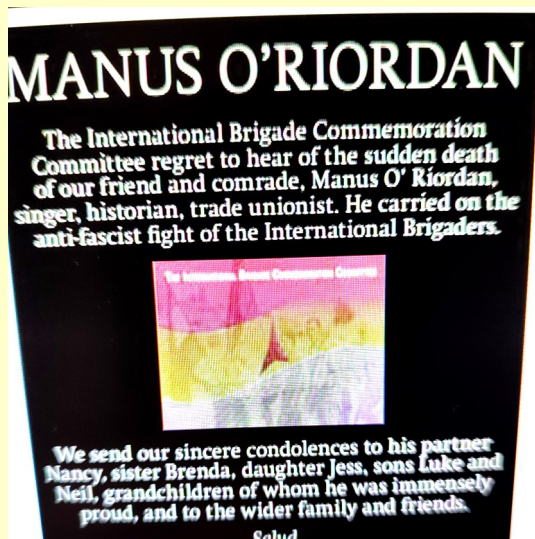
Some members also attended the IBMT AGM in Southampton in 2021 and in Manchester 2022.

Feile event: Last year saw an improvement on the situation and we were able to organise for Jim Jump to speak at the feile about the maritime support that was given to the International Brigaders. There was a good attendance at the Shankill Library

Going into the 2023 we need to consider what events we can organise and attend

Draft Agenda

1. Apologies
2. 2022: Secretaries report was given by Ernest Walker: as above-with more detail.
3. Finance Report-Bank Account-given by Frank Cammock
4. Election of the Committee. & members as named-trustees/officers were re-elected
5. Discussion/Action for 2023:
 - a) Film about the Lincoln Brigade possible in early May, date to be agreed:
 - b) Change the wording on the Shankill plaque/new plaque
 - c) Feile guest speaker. Jim Jump
6. AOB



International Brigade Commemoration Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100140

Annual return

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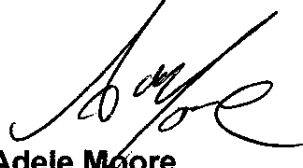
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Adele Moore
Finance & Administration Manager
4-6 Donegall St Pl, Belfast BT1 2FN

Date: 19th December 2023